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June 10, 2011

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Cynthia T. Brown
Chief, Section of Administration
Office of Proceedings
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20423

Re: STB Ex Parte No. 705, Competition in the Railroad Industry

Dear Ms. Brown:

On behalf of our client, Norfolk Southern Railway Company ("NS"), this letter constitutes the notice specified in the Board's Orders dated January 11 and February 4, 2011, of NS' intent to participate in the oral hearing scheduled in the above-referenced proceeding for June 22-23, 2011. NS will be represented at the hearing by Mr. Mark A. Manion, Executive Vice President & Chief Operating Officer, and by Mr. James A. Hixon, Executive Vice President-Law & Corporate Relations.

Mr. Manion, who submitted a verified statement in support of NS' Opening Comments in this proceeding, and Mr. Hixon will emphasize certain points made in NS' Opening and Reply Comments and will address issues raised by other parties. NS requests a total of twenty (20) minutes for the presentations of Messrs. Manion and Hixon.

Separately, NS has observed that in recent days a host of form letters have been filed in this Docket by various individuals. Some writers have been forthcoming in stating that they are employees of interested parties, such as rural electric cooperatives. See, for example, the letter of Mr. William Hurt, Coahoma Electric Power Association. Others do not expressly state that they are employees of interested parties, but simple on-line research reveals that many of them are such employees as well. For example, Ms. Roxanne Carisch of Lake City, Iowa, is the CEO of Calhoun County Rural Electric Cooperative, and Mr. Jed Skogerboe is the Manager of Business and Community Development at Iowa Lakes Electric Cooperative. Compare, for example, the letter of Ms. Carisch with <http://www.campaignmoney.com/political/contributions/roxanne-carisch.asp?cycle=10> with <http://www.calhounrec.coop/asp/general/aboutus.aspx>; and the letter of Mr. Skogerboe with <http://www.ilec.coop/asp/general/clientpage.aspx?PageID=124>.

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As the Board knows, NS has tens of thousands of employees, as well as thousands more non-employee friends and supporters. If these form letters might carry any weight with Board members, we respectfully request that you advise us so that NS's employees and citizen supporters can respond accordingly.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "G. Paul Moates".

G. Paul Moates
Paul A. Hemmersbaugh

GPM:vam